

REMARKS

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 287-300 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Naito (U.S. 5,707,779). The Examiner stated the following:

Naito discloses a composition comprising a dye covalently linked to a moiety having a reactive group. The composition comprises a dye molecule, wherein the dye molecule has a molecular structure containing an aromatic skeleton and three or more dye skeletons which respectively bond to the aromatic skeleton via a chemical bond formed by a condensation reaction. The dye molecule has a molecular structure containing a heterocyclic aromatic skeleton and three or more dye skeletons which bond to the heterocyclic skeleton so as to form a π electron conjugated system (col.2, col. 4-17, col. 19-20), which is viewed to be inclusive of the additional reactive group Rx. Col. 30 shows a structure of formula (9) where the composition comprises a moiety comprising a reactive group CF₃. See also col. 35-36, which shows fused aromatic ring. Col. 48 shows composition comprising charged or polar moiety, which will inherently increase solubility, which is viewed to be inclusive of instant claim 297.

Claim Objections

Claims 301- 304 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended Claim 287 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 288, Claim 297, Claim 299 and Claim 301. Claim 303 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 288, Claim 297, Claim 299, Claim 301, Claim 302 and Claim 304 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe that these amendments address the Examiner's concerns. Specifically, the amended claims now render the Examiner's rejections and objections moot.

Stravrianopoulos et al.

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SUMMARY

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections of record of claims 287-304. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

No other fee or fees are believed due in connection with this paper. In the event that any fee or fees are due, however, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any such fee or fees to Deposit Account No. 05-1135, or to credit any overpayment thereto.

If a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of the present application, Applicants' undersigned attorney requests that she be contacted at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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